

**ABSTRACT**

An image processing apparatus avoids abnormal control on loads including an optional device and enables only program transfer when transfer of a control program from an external device is not normally proceeding. Through a communication interface, the control program is transferred from the external device to a flash memory via an external controller, while a transfer state thereof is stored in EEPROM. In response to the state of the EEPROM, CPU controls power supply to the external controller and the optional device to avoid abnormal operation of the optional device during transfer of control programs.